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WEB SERVER CONTENT REPLICATION

Cross-Reference to Related Applications

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This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. patent application serial number 09/086,821, filed May 29, 1998, and this application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. patent application serial number 09/086,836, filed May 29, 1998, ^{now U.S. Patent No. 6,317,786} and this application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. patent application serial number 09/086,874, filed May 29, 1998, ^{now U.S. Patent No. 6,279,001} and this application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. patent application serial number 09/087,263, filed May 29, 1998, ^{now U.S. Patent No. 6,314,463} and this application claims priority to U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/117,674, filed January 28, 1999.

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Technical Field

This invention relates to managing multiple web servers, and more particularly to a web service system that allows a system operator to distribute content to each web server in the web service system.

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Background Information

In a computer network environment, web servers are used to respond to users' web page requests, which are transmitted over the computer network. Web page requests, also referred to as content requests, typically are made by a browser running on a user's computer. A web server monitors one or more computer network address/port endpoints for web page requests and responds to the web page requests by transmitting web pages to the requester. Web servers may be special purpose devices, or they may be implemented with a software program running on a general purpose computer. The service capacity of a web server limits the number of web page requests that may be received and responded to in a given time interval.

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A web service system may include one web server or more than one web server.